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Blair, Nebraska, June 3, 1957

Number 22



The Beautiful Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Racine, Wisconsin

Host to the 61st Annual Convention
Of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church
June 13-18.

News and Notes

Joint Union Committee Greet ELC

WHEREAS, June 9, 1957, marks the fortieth anniversary of the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America; and WHEREAS, God has abundantly provided this Church with talented and consecrated leadership through these forty fruitful years; and WHEREAS, God has richly blessed Lutheranism particularly in America through this Church's broad and wise provision for education at all levels, its aggressive evangelistic zeal and works of love, its consecrated devotion to the teaching and preaching of the pure Word and to the faithful administration of the Sacraments; and WHEREAS, we of the Uniting Churches shall be specially blessed as we shall participate in this rich cultural and spiritual inheritance, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Joint Union Committee of the American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, join the Evangelical Lutheran Church in its prayers of praise and thanksgiving to our gracious God, and unite in the petition for God's continued blessing upon the leaders and the entire membership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge our respective churches to join in this prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

May 17, 1957
Chicago, Ill.

Tillman M. Sogge, Chairman
Wm. L. Young, Secretary

Dr. Ethan Mengers of Trinity Seminary is to be congratulated because he has just received a Ph.D. degree from Boston University. He already has a Doctor of Theology degree.

Trinity Seminary conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity on the Rev. Conrad M. Thompson, director of evangelism of the E.L.C. during the commencement exercises at Dubuque, Iowa, May 29.

Ten Young Men to be Ordained

The following men have applied for ordination. The ordination will take place at the annual convention at Racine, Wis.

The names of the candidates and the places they expect to serve follow:

Bent Damkar, Nazareth Lutheran Church, Standard, Alberta, Can.

Myron Haleen, Trinity Lutheran Church Washington Island, Wis.

Edwin Hansen, Scandinavian Lutheran Church, Swan River, Man., Can.

Roy Jorgensen, Emmaus-Immanuel Lutheran Churches, Kennard-Orum, Nebr.

Walter Kirkegaard, Bethany Lutheran Church, Minden, Nebr.

Paul Kloth, Olivet Lutheran Church Inglewood, Calif.

Lyle Kohler, Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Donald Olsen, St. Stephan Lutheran Church, Camp Douglas, Wis.

John Planz, Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Audubon, Iowa.

Mark Thomsen, Sudan Mission, Africa.

A LETTER

Dear Editor:

We have just started a Parish Library here in our North Hollywood Church. Thinking of possible areas of acquiring books, one of our deacon's mentioned "The libraries of retired or deceased pastors." Should there be

the possibility of getting good books from such sources, either as gifts or at small cost, we would like to hear from the persons involved. Communications can be sent to:

Pastor Adolph Kloth
7400 Tujunga Ave.,
North Hollywood, Calif.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 61st Annual Convention of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin, June 13-18. The opening service begins Thursday evening, June 13, at 8 p.m. The convention will continue through Tuesday noon. Kindly inform every member that Wisconsin is on Central Daylight Saving Time.

All congregations are urged to send delegates, one delegate for each congregation (twenty-one years or over) or major fraction thereof. Delegates will please have credential cards filled out, bring to the convention and present to the Credentials Committee.

All matters which require convention action should be in the hands of the Church Council by June 10.

The Pre-Convention Reports will be available through the pastors of all congregations. We urge all pastors and congregations to give prayerful consideration to all the reports. May God grant His blessing upon our 61st Annual Convention.
William Larsen, President
Lawrence Siersbeck, Secretary

Jens J. Dalbo, who studied at Trinity Seminary and served in the ministry of our church, 1895-1905, passed away on May 7th at East Palatka, Florida, at the age of 88. He was married to his wife and four children from an earlier marriage.

Dalbo's first wife died early in life, leaving him with four small children, which caused him to move to Florida to bring up his children alone and to make a living for himself and his family as a truck farmer. Later he took up the barber trade.

Mr. Dalbo was intellectually far beyond the average and had a command of English and Danish with almost perfect ease. He was a frequent contributor to publications in both languages. I

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THE ANSGAR LUTHERAN, Official Organ of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, published weekly by Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr.

Much of our news is received from Religious News Service, and the News Bureau of the National Lutheran Council.

JOHN M. JENSEN, Editor
321 E. 8th Street
Spencer, Iowa

Otto H. Stave, Business Manager. Subscription price: United States and Canada, \$3.00 per year in advance; foreign countries, \$4.00. Everything pertaining to the Youth Department should be sent to Rev. John W. Nielsen, 316 N. Plum St., Northfield, Minn. A special rate of \$2.00 per year is offered Bible classes and organizations of the church when ten or more copies are sent to one address, and when the congregation has The Ansgar Lutheran in every home—Church Paper in Every Home Plan. Subscriptions, remittances, and change of address, advertisements and all communications pertaining to the Business Department should be sent to the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr. When CHANGE OF ADDRESS is desired give old as well as new address. Entered as second class matter, December 14, 1917, at the Post Office at Blair, Nebraska, under Act of March 3, 1879.

Editorials and Comments

We Salute the E.L.C.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church celebrates its fortieth anniversary this month. It was organized in 1917 by the Norwegian Lutheran Churches, The United Norwegian Lutheran Church, the Hauge Synod, and the Norwegian Synod. During the forty years the merged church has more than doubled its membership. It now has a total baptized membership of 1,043,404.

It is natural for the UELC to salute the ELC. We had very close ties with the Norwegians from the beginning. One of the great pioneers among the Norwegians was the Danish pastor, C. L. Clausen, who came to work among Norwegian immigrants in 1846. When the Danish immigration began to assume some proportions in the late sixties, Pastor Clausen was interested in the Danes. A Danish-Norwegian Conference in existence between 1870-84. But the language problem made the Danes set out for themselves at that

any more Norwegians have come to America than the Danes, and the Norwegian churches have grown and established strong colleges and seminaries.

We have much in common with the ELC in an almost identical liturgy and also in our church life. Not a few of our pastors have received part of their training at the colleges and at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. The ELC is growing fast. Its Evangelism and Stewardship programs are very strong. The ELC is now the largest Lutheran body in America.

Let the members in the UELC wish the best for our sister synod. We rejoice with her, and we pray that God's blessing may rest on her in rich measure during the years till 1960, when we shall be one with her and the ALC, and we hope with the LFC.

Laymen and Theology

The Evangelical Lutheran Church will conduct a seven-weeks' course for lay people devoted to Biblical and theological study at its Seminary at St. Paul, Minn., this summer. Attendance is limited to college and nursing students.

We believe this is a very fine idea. We have often thought it strange that we do not try to give our lay people deeper insight into the things that the church is for. The plain fact is that our lay people are not really interested in deeper study. We are sure that our lay people read very little that will truly deepen their religious knowledge. They read very little in the church papers, and they buy very few books and they are less.

Are we pastors to blame? Have we not trained our people? Are we neglectful in suggesting books they

may read and do we neglect to suggest stimulating themes for discussion.

We have young married groups that meet in the church. They have all had a high school education and a number have graduated from college. But the fact is that very seldom do they have very deep subjects before them. They have devotion and a good time. They emphasize fellowship. We know this is needed and of value. However, we do believe that if we once got started on cultural and Christian subjects, they would learn to appreciate them.

A layman who desires to acquire some deeper knowledge in the Christian faith need only begin to read his Bible and some books about his church. He will want to read something on doctrine too. But as a rule, our Christians go to church on Sunday and then forget about it till next Sunday.

Those that are really and truly Christians in Europe seem to be much more deeply committed than we are. We have a great church interest, and our people are much more willing to give and to serve than the Europeans in general. But the real Christians in Europe seem to be ahead of us in their cultural and spiritual interests. They really enjoy themes of deep significance to their life and to the church.

We suggest that our church groups and circles bring this to attention at some meeting. It is well worthy of deep study.

The Free Press

A great deal of discussion has been going on in the public press because the State Department will not issue passports for reporters to go to China. The argument of the reporters is that if they are free to print the news, they should also be free to gather the news.

When the press is limited in its right to print news, corruption is possible. The dictator countries always introduce censorship. We really do not know how much we are indebted to the free press.

The problem sometimes comes up with respect to censorship of some of the cheap books that we find in some newsstands. We certainly believe that it would be better if some of these books were not for sale. But censorship is always dangerous. It may easily be misused.

When it comes to the church we may also be thankful for a free press. Most church papers are free. The editor is responsible for what is printed, but no one can tell him what to print and what not to print. In our twenty years as editor we have never been told by the presidents of the church how to edit the paper. The Boards have also refrained from dictating to us.

We believe this is the best policy. Editors make mis-

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Church News from here and there

LUTHERANS PLAN FIRST COLLEGE IN CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles—A \$10,000,000 Lutheran college, the first in this state, will be built here. It will be operated by the California District of the Lutheran Evangelical Church in co-operation with other Lutheran bodies.

Dr. Orville Dahl, president of the California Lutheran Education Foundation, filed incorporation papers for the school. He said he expected the college to be in operation within three years. At its maximum capacity it will have a student body of 1500 and a faculty of 60, he said.

The education foundation has \$400,000 of the total needed to construct the school. A fund campaign for \$1,500,000 will be conducted jointly by American Lutheran, Augustana Lutheran, Evangelical Lutheran, United Lutheran, and United Evangelical Lutheran churches.

URGES RESEARCH INTO SIZE OF CHURCHES

A prominent Presbyterian churchman proposed at Minneapolis, Minnesota that research be conducted in Minnesota to determine "how large a church can be and still be a community."

Dr. Paul C. Payne of Philadelphia said a "searching study" should be made into the most effective size of churches "before we continue any farther in piling up monster congregations."

Speaking in a lecture series marking the centennial of Westminster Presbyterian church, Dr. Payne gave this definition of what he meant by a community:

"A loving fellowship of people who care for each other or of people who know each other well enough to dislike and be irritated by each other and be compelled to learn to understand and live with and finally to grow into love for each other."

Dr. Payne, retiring general secretary of the Presbyterian (U.S.A.)

Board of Christian Education, said the churches must find ways of giving "strange, hurrying, lonely throngs of people around us an experience of community in the impersonal faceless life of our great cities and suburbs."

He also said the Church must "minister to the community surrounding it."

Some city churches "are dying and deserving to die because they are making no effort to serve the neighborhood where they are situated," he observed.

Dr. Payne deplored a tendency to "make a church membership easy for fear of driving prospective members away."

"By making church membership easy," he said, "we turn our churches into warrens for spiritual rabbits who want some magic formula guaranteed to save their tender skins, while braver souls who would take the church seriously find themselves baffled and distressed by the lack of challenge or by the little church chores that are assigned them when they volunteer for service . . ."

PRENUPTIAL PACT CAN'T BE ENFORCED

Agreements before marriage by which a non-Roman Catholic partner agrees to raise children as Roman Catholics cannot be legally enforced in Connecticut, Superior Court Judge Charles H. House ruled this month.

The jurist's decision came in a case between Edward J. McLaughlin, a Roman Catholic, and his wife, a Methodist. Before marriage in a Roman Catholic rectory in 1942 Mrs. McLaughlin signed an agreement that all children resulting from the union would be baptized and educated in the Roman Catholic Church, that she would not obstruct her husband in the exercise of his faith and that the marriage would be solemnized only by a Roman Catholic ceremony. Three

children were born to the couple.

Last year, McLaughlin asked for separation and Mrs. McLaughlin asked for divorce. Neither was granted. McLaughlin then sought custody of the children and a judicial decree that they be raised as Roman Catholics.

In his decision, Judge House refused both petitions and ordered the father to pay \$75 weekly to support his children. "The law is absolute and impartial in matters of religion," he said. "The court will not take a child's religious education into its own hands in the face of circumstances amounting to a lack of fitness of the custodian," he said. He based his ruling on a provision in the state constitution which reads: "No person shall by law be compelled to join or support, nor be associated with or associated to a congregation, church or religious association."

MARK 150 YEARS OF PROTESTANT WORK IN CHINA

More than 1,000 missionaries and Chinese Christians and others interested in the Far East attended a service of thanksgiving at the Riverside church, New York City, to mark 150 years of Protestant work in China.

The service commemorated the arrival in China in 1807 of the pioneering Protestant missionaries the Rev. Robert Morrison of the London Missionary Society, credited with making the first converts to Christianity in the Middle Empire.

Dr. Morrison also translated the Bible from English into Chinese characters, so that new and prospective Chinese Christians could read the Gospel in their own tongue.

The service was sponsored by the China Christian Fellowship of New York and 15 denominational mission boards.

An original Chinese hymn, "Church of China Rise and Shine," was sung in both Chinese and English by the congregation and the Chinese Chorus of New York.

Following the service, an informal reception was held for more than 100 guests.

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The Washington Observer

By Gerhard Lenski

MARTIN LUTHER KING COMES TO TOWN

Yesterday the Reverend Martin Luther King of Montgomery, Alabama, led his Prayer Pilgrimage to the Lincoln Memorial here in Washington. "Give us the ballot," he said in his address and in almost anti-climatic style the great crowd of thousands before him chanted "Give us the ballot." This Prayer Pilgrimage was arranged by Negro leaders of kind of moral and spiritual appeal to President Eisenhower and Congress in behalf of integrated and improved conditions for the Negro throughout our land.

The crowd attending is estimated to be somewhere between 15,000 and 20,000. The turn-out was disappointingly small in the light of the forecasts which promised 50,000 or more. There were many people from New York and outlying cities. Strangely enough, the Negro population of Washington itself was said to have been conspicuously absent.

The addresses made were strong and earnest, but devoid of excessive emotionalism and without threats or innuendoes. Representative Pomeroy of New York did charge both Democrats and Republicans with dishonesty and hypocrisy. One of the finest expressions made was by the President of the Porters Union, Mr. A. Philip Randolph, who said "we are opposed to the use of immoral means to attain moral

ends." Martin Luther King, from all reports, is a fine and capable leader. The appeals he has made to his own people to conduct themselves as Christians in this, their effort, to secure their rights are of an inspiring nature. As he leads his people in prayer, it is fitting and right that Christians everywhere should pray for him.

LABOR ON THE DEFENSIVE

There is very much on the defensive these days. This is notably true in Washington where important legis-

lation is pending in connection with labor issues. The recent Senate Committee hearings dealing with Dave Beck and his Teamsters' union have not created an impression favorable to the efforts of the organized labor movement. In fact the contrary seems to be the case—not too many further benefits for labor at this time—rather some stern regulatory measures to curb and control labor's various activities throughout the land.

All this comes at a time when labor has already enjoyed some of its greatest successes in terms of increased pay, improved working conditions and many so called fringe benefits. It also comes at the very time still further benefits seemed assured, still better pay, a shorter (four day) working week, a minimum (\$1 an hour) work pay for some twenty million workers mostly unskilled and not yet covered whom the unions would like to bring into the fold. No doubt, many of these benefits still sought by labor are entirely legitimate and in all fairness should be granted. How unfortunate that the questionable, if not criminal, methods employed by a few great labor leaders should now jeopardize particularly low-paid and unprotected workers, threatening to deprive them of sorely needed and really deserved benefits.

It is to be hoped that recent developments in the labor field will be rightly appraised by all concerned. Good leadership is as important in the labor field as it is anywhere in church or state. Labor, like capital, must make itself amenable to law and fair play. "The workman is worthy of his hire"—but when the workman places hire above morality and accepts leadership that defies law, tension, strife and suffering will be the inevitable outcome. The labor movement has many good leaders. Now is the time for these good leaders to assert themselves and to demonstrate beyond all

doubt or contradiction the high moral standards they mean to follow.

POLITICS AS CHRISTIAN DUTY

The formal word of welcome brought to the Seminar group of 150 students selected from our Lutheran Seminaries and Colleges and visiting Washington at this time was brought by Judge Luther Youngdahl. These young people represented all Lutheran groups, ULCA, Missouri Synod, ELC, ALC, Augustana and UELC. What a fine group they were, many visiting Washington for the first time and all seriously intent upon carrying out the Seminar project, that of studying the workings of our government firsthand.

The Judge's welcome was something more than a neatly phrased greeting full of saccharine words and polite cliches. After the briefest of introductions, it turned out to be a ringing challenge to these 150 and to all our youth across the land to take their citizenship seriously, to regard "politics" not as something questionable or remote or foreign, but rather to think of it as their Christian duty, a calling under God to which they should give the best in them. Said the Judge: How can we have law enforcement, civic morality, good schools, honor and honesty in business, order in the nation and peace in our world, unless you, the leaders of tomorrow, know what good government means and then go out with a determination and a will to establish and maintain it?

Supplementing and strengthening the Judge's appeal was the informative statement made by Director Robert Van Deusen of the National Lutheran Council, to the effect that the Lutheran Church at this time is sending a number of fine consecrated Christian men and women into public service and that these individuals as leaders and workers in government are making a definite Christian contribution. To which statement your columnist would affix the short prayer: "May grace be given to many others to follow in their train!"

THE RACINE CONVENTION

Transportation, Housing etc.

OUR SAVIOR'S - HOST CHURCH

Our Savior's church of Racine, Wisconsin, the host church for the 61st Annual Synodical Convention, was organized almost 61 years ago on July 21, 1896. For the first two years, services were held in a small rented wooden chapel. On October 17, 1898 Our Savior's first church, located at Twelfth and Racine St. was dedicated. Just last year, on April 15th, our new church located in the "heart of Racine" was dedicated. It was built on a two acre plot at a total cost of almost \$400,000. Its beauty and serviceability must be seen to be appreciated and we await your visit so you may share it with us. The architect who built it said it was unique in that it has no back door. The Porte Cochere entrance from the parking lot (which is entered from Taylor Ave.) is as widely used as the impressive tower entrance on the front of the church which faces Washington Ave. Pastor L. M. Andersen, our present pastor came to Our Savior's in 1948. As of January 1, 1957 Our Savior's had 1260 members which is almost double what it was 10 years ago. The congregation is looking forward to your visit and is busy making plans to make your stay most enjoyable.

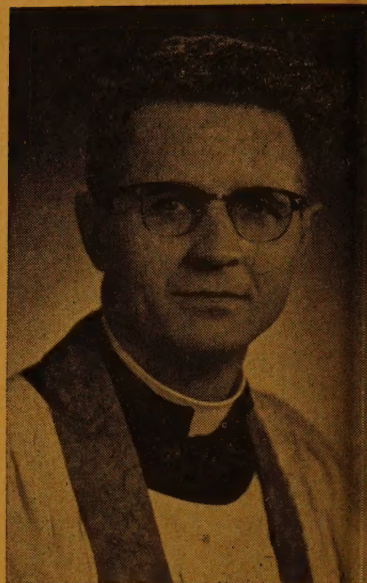
RACINE WISCONSIN - HOST CITY

Racine, Wisconsin, host city for the 61st Annual Synodical Convention is located on the shores of Lake Michigan about 25 miles south of Milwaukee and 65 miles north of Chicago. As of the last census, Racine had a population of about 71,000 persons making it the third largest city in Wisconsin, Milwaukee and Madison (the capital) being larger. Racine has about 90 churches one third of which are Lutheran. 14 of these belong to the National Lutheran Council. There are 4 churches here belonging to our Synod. They are Immanuel, Gethsemane, Emmaus, and Our Savior's. It is interesting to note that the original Emmaus church was one of the first U.E.L.C. churches to be built. It might be noted that in Racine are three churches belonging

to two of the synods we are merging with. They are St. Paul's Redeemer, and Bethesda. Racine is a city of industry and homes and the people are a friendly religious people. We are sure that when you return home from the convention, you will take with you many pleasant memories of Racine's hospitality.

TRANSPORTATION

Trains with regular scheduled stops in Racine are the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad and the Chicago and North Shore Electric line connecting Chicago and Milwaukee. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad at this writing is in the process of making schedule changes effective May 30th so it is suggested that you make sure you have the new schedule. The Chicago North Shore Electric line has trains leaving both Milwaukee and Chicago every hour on the hour. Racine is about a half hour from Milwaukee on this line and one and a half hours from the Loop in Chicago. Both stations are a comparatively short distance from the church, and arrangements can be made to meet you if you will notify us of your arrival time. Those coming by bus should make train connections at either Chicago or Milwaukee as there is no direct bus service to Racine. There is limousine service available seven times daily from the airport at Milwaukee. For those who are driving, Racine is 10 miles east of U.S. Highway 41 which goes between Chicago and Milwaukee. Those coming from the South on Highway 41 turn East on State Highway 11. Those coming from the North on Highway 41, turn East on State Highway 20. The church is located at 2219 Washington Ave. at the corner of Taylor Ave. This is also the intersection of the two State Highways 11 and 20. Any other transportation information desired can be had by sending your request to our Registration Chairman, Mrs. Auge Jensen, 826 Orchard St., Racine, Wisconsin. Consideration should be given to the fact that Racine and Wisconsin are on Central Daylight Saving Time this year.



The Rev. L. M. Andersen, Pastor
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

MEALS

Arrangements are being made to serve noon and evening meals in the church fellowship hall located in the basement of the church. A meal plan covering all these meals with the exception of the Saturday Night W.M.S. banquet can be purchased for \$2.00. Tickets for the W.M.S. banquet will be available at the start of the convention at a cost of \$2.00. Individual tickets for all other meals will be available at a cost of \$1.00 for the luncheon and \$1.50 for the dinners. No breakfast will be served at the church. 10 restaurants can be found within a 10 minute drive from the church (Racine's Downtown area is only minutes away.) The evening meals at the church are to be banquets: Friday night being for the Brotherhood; Saturday night W. M. S.; Sunday night Luther League; and Monday night Dana College Alumni banquet. Following the evening services, a night beginning Thursday and continuing thru Monday coffee and lunch will be served. (It could well be the "and???" might at least be that famous and always delicious "Danish Kringle.") Exact times of meals will be announced at the start of the convention and will be written into the convention time-table.

HOUSING

The limited housing facilities in private homes will be allotted on a basis of earliest registrations, preference being given to pastors, delegates and wives. Motels and Hotels are conveniently available. Reservations can be made if you so indicated on your registration card.

(Continued on page 7)

CHURCH

WOMAN

PRAYS

ss the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me,
his holy name.

s the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his
ts." (Psalms 103:1,2)

dear Heavenly Father, in the name of our Savior,
Christ, we thank Thee for Thy mercies, which
ew every day. We thank Thee that Thou art a
r of LOVING-kindness and TENDER mercies.

thank Thee for Thy Son, Jesus Christ. In this
season of Lent, may we become more humbly con-
of, and grateful for His vicarious sacrifice.

thank Thee for today's fellowship, and for the Lu-
churches established by our forefathers to meet
specific needs. Now we ask Thy blessing upon
eorganization which will bring into being a new
more suitable for our needs and opportunities of

of the UELC thank Thee sincerely for the hands
owship that have reached out to us from our sister
nes. We take these hands and pray that we may to-

The UELC W.M.S. president, Mrs. Merrill Paulson, of
Poy Sippi, Wisconsin led in prayer at the Joint Meeting
of the women's groups of the ALC, ELC, and UELC
held at Minneapolis March 16. We print this prayer by
request.

gether walk into a greater light and more effective
service.

We thank Thee that Thou hast set before us an open
door which no man can shut. Forgive us for the times
we have failed to enter that door because of jealousies,
selfishness, laziness, and other relative sins.

We thank Thee that no man can shut the door, else
we'd have shut it ourselves by our disobedience and
ignorance.

May we realize that the total success of the new
church body will depend upon individual obedience to
Thy Word. Give us the will to study that Word more
diligently that we may know Thy perfect will for us.

"Where there is no vision the people perish." O, give
us vision, dear Father. By the Holy Spirit, make us will-
ing to be servants rather than the served—broken
bread and poured out wine. May we be "separated un-
to the Gospel"—"in honor preferring one another."

And now as we continue this meeting of the Women
of the Church (regarding the adoption of this Constitu-
tion), may we realize that we have not chosen You, but
You have chosen us that we should go and bear fruit
and that fruit shall abide; for this we ask Thee, Father,
in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE RACINE CONVENTION

Continued from Page 6
also important that any who
o stay with friends or relatives
re making their own arrange-
notify the Registration Chair-
f the name and address where
will be staying so that we may

have a complete file on all who are
attending the convention. The Regis-
tration and Housing Information desk
will be located in the Parish House
which is the old brick home just West
of the new church building. The
address is 2219 Washington Ave. and
the office phone number is Melrose

3-2243. If you are calling from inside
the city of Racine, the exchange is
not used in dialing. It might be well
to repeat that all who attend must
register whether they be pastors,
delegates, or visitors. This holds true
for those who are making all their
own arrangements also.

TIMOTHY

REMEMBER!

Timothy was engaged in full time religious work. He had been a faithful fellow missionary and a trusted co-worker of Paul. When Paul obeyed the Macedonian call to bring the gospel also to Europe, he left Timothy in the Metropolitan city of Ephesus to be overseer of the work of the Church there. He was to resist "certain persons, not to teach any different doctrine, not to occupy themselves with myths and endless genealogies which promote speculations rather than divine teachings."

This appears to be one of Paul's fears: A man may be so occupied with the externals of the Church—the organization, the program, the various activities of the Church—that he forgets Jesus Christ.

Paul had that fear in regard to himself and gave expression to that fear in these words: I pommel my body and subdue it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified—become an anathema, that is a thing rejected.

It would be a grave mistake to suppose that Timothy was the only church worker, who might be in danger of forgetting Christ—the Christ according to Paul's gospel—and suffer the consequences.

The Present Situation.

Speaking in a Christian sense there are two classes of people: The people who know God and the people who do not know God. Of the people who do not know God, some have never learned of him, partly because of the neglect of the Church, others have learned of him but forgot him, partly because of the cares of the world and the delight in riches.

In one of the well known books of John Steinbeck a leading character is a former preacher. When going gets tough for the people, the ex-preacher is called on again and again to say a prayer. The ex-preacher is reluctant to pray and the people cannot understand why. He is honest enough to make the admission: I have forgotten Jesus and I have forgotten how to pray!

Among the stimulating Christian teachers and preachers, who in recent years have come to our land because of the great upheavals in Europe, at least one expresses grave concern and earnest grief when he says: Continental Europe is basically post-Christian and we are all facing the possibility of the end of the Christian era; both the defensiveness and the aggressiveness of the Church at the present time are indicative of insecurity.

Most recent reports from quarters which are in position to know and to discriminate inform us that in the United States armed forces the doctrines and the expressions of worship found among civilians are criticized and looked upon with disdain by certain influential military commanders.

By M. Jorgensen

All of which calls to mind the somber words of Lord Jesus: "When the Son of man comes, will he find faith on Earth?"

A Parable

A story with a terrible suggestion comes to us from the past century. It is the story about the spider and the nest.

The spider came down from above, spinning a delicate thread. Around the first spider thread the spider spun another thread and yet another until he had finished. The net was a good one. It caught many flies. The spider devoured the flies and grew fat—fat and forgetful. After a while the spider forgot the thread, the first thread, the thread from above. In his forgetfulness he cut the thread and the anchor of the net was gone. And the net was gone—and the spider was gone with the wind!

Might a civilization be like that spider? Or a nation? Or a religious system?

But to a Christian, God is more than creator and sustainer of all things.

God is the Father of all mercy. In Christ Jesus, God offers redemption and all that redemption involves—life for time and for eternity. To this redemption, wrought by Christ on the cross, the Savior invites even his enemies.

"O lovely attitude! He stands
With melting heart and laden hands.
O matchless kindness! And He shows
This matchless kindness to His foes."

To remember Jesus Christ as preached in the New Testament gospel, is to remember the Christ of the cross, the Christ of the "matchless kindness," put to death for our sins and raised for our justification.

A Legend

There is a meaningful legend that comes to us from the past. It is about two men, Thomas of Aquinas, the most learned, and Bonaventura, the most eloquent men in Europe of the 13th century. The legend tells of a visit Aquinas paid to Bonaventura, at the end of which the visitor asked to see Bonaventura's library. The host led his guest to his cell, opened the door and pointing to the crucifix he said: There is my library.

The crucifix—and all it represents—sparks lead into moving eloquence. And all eloquence of the world sparks into self-sacrificial living.

Jesus Christ as preached in Paul's gospel reveals the nature of God, which is redeeming love, and assures us of the meaning of the present existence, which is the restoration of all things.

But if that crucified and yet ever living Christ is forgotten, man shall fare according to the Hebrew psalmist—or worse: If I forget you . . . my right hand shall wither!

MERGER GROUPS PICK MINNEAPOLIS FOR FIRST CONVENTION OF "TALC"

The constituting convention of "The American Lutheran Church" in May of 1960 will be held in Minneapolis. The Minnesota city was chosen as the site for the historic organizing session of the new two-million-member church body at a two-day meeting, at Chicago, Ill., the Joint Union Committee of the Evangelical, American and United Evangelical Lutheran Churches.

The three uniting Churches, which may also be joined by the Lutheran Free Church, are expected to hold their final conventions in Minneapolis or St. Paul a few days before the first convention of the new Church.

The 1,043,000-member ELC, the 890,000-member ALC and the 60,000-member UELC are committed to the merger and the 72,000-member LFC is expected to vote in favor of returning to the negotiations at its annual conference, June 12-16, in Minneapolis.

In the union timetable revised at the meeting here, April 16-17, it is suggested that the uniting Churches meet during the period May 8-15 in 1960.

At that time they will adopt final union resolutions, making provision to transfer their usual functions to TALC on Jan. 1, 1961, and take action necessary to continue their respective corporations to complete any legal transactions that may be required.

Immediately following these sessions, 1,000 delegates, half clergy and half lay, will represent the uniting churches in the constituting convention of TALC.

The delegates will ratify incorporation of the new church, adopt constitution and by-laws, elect officers and members of boards, and take action to recognize financial commitments certified by the uniting Churches. Also to be adopted at that time will be resolutions approving for membership in the National Lutheran Council, Lutheran World Federation, Canadian Council of Churches and World Council of Churches.

Minneapolis was recommended as the place for the constituting convention by a sub-committee consisting of the Rev. O. H. Hove, secretary of the ELC, as chairman; Alfred H. Ewald, president of the Minnesota District of the ALC, and the Rev. K. M. Matthiesen, home mission director of the UELC. The committee suggested that the following convention be held elsewhere than Minneapolis.

According to the union timetable, it is planned to hold the first general convention of the new Church in October of 1961 and then to meet biennially thereafter.

In view of the fact that national headquarters of TALC will be located in Minneapolis, the Joint Union Committee approved a recommendation that the new Church be incorporated in Minnesota.

A sub-committee of attorneys, headed by Carl F. Anrud, president of the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Society recommended incorporation under existing statutory law of Minnesota rather than by special act of the legislature.



THE WEEK AT DANA

your midcontinent college

HAIL AND FAREWELL!

Commencement ceremonies were held Sunday afternoon, May 26, at Dana College, with students from seven states receiving the Bachelor's Degree. Darol D. Valder, Blair, and this year's student body president, gave the valedictory address; Ann Lindholm, Swannanoa, N. Car., was salutatorian. Dr. Paul A. Zimmermann, president of Nebraska's Concordia Teacher's College (Missouri Synod), was the guest speaker, and Dr. C. C. Madsen, president of Dana, conferred the degrees. Both the Dana College Choir and the Dana College Band added much to make this a festive occasion.

Those who have been on the campus for commencement know the thrill of seeing the long procession move from Pioneer Memorial, up the hill past Old Main, and on down to the auditorium—the choir in maroon robes, and the graduates and professors in cap and gown, with the brilliant hoods of the faculty showing the colors of universities across the land. Those who have participated in commencement after commencement still feel the surge of emotion as the assembly sings the words of the Dana song:

O hail, fair Dana, hail to thee!
Though time thy walls may claim,
Thy spirit live, another throng
Rise up and sing our song.

The embracing hills that rise around College Hill have been the frame for similar ceremonies since the nineties, for Dana is one of the older colleges in the state. The opening line of the school song—"While yet our land was wilderness"—is not mere poetic rhetoric, for it was only eleven years before the foundation of the Blair institution that the last of the wars of the Indian Nations was fought in Nebraska.

Baccalaureate services are no longer held in the college auditorium now that First Lutheran Church of Blair has a large new sanctuary. There on the morning of commencement day Rev. George Robertson, youth director of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, preached the sermon on the topic "Faith and Direction."

The class of 1957 has given much to Dana that is intangible and it has given something that is tangible: A beautiful gold and black wall clock for the student center and a substantial gift to the library for the purchase of recordings of music, poetry and drama. Friday night of the last week there was another gift: Nadine Johnson, contralto, presented her final recital. Once more we heard her rich voice and remembered many solo parts that she had sung on choir tours and in "The Messiah."

Mingled with the spirit of congratulation for a job well done, there is an undercurrent of sadness, for those of us who remain will miss those who, after four years, will no longer be a part of the local college community. But there is this cheering thought: It would be difficult to find a more loyal alumni group than the Alumni Association of Dana College and Trinity Seminary.

So to another group now entering the larger Dana family: Hail and farewell!

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

WE'RE HAVING COMPANY

By George J. Robertson



Günther Beck
Austria



Hans-Peter Ekardt
Germany



Niels Knud Johansen
Denmark



Ejvind Kristensen
Denmark

These four young Lutheran leaders will be guests of our Synodical Luther League from June 19th until about September 1st this year. They are among some 70 youth from 15 nations coming to America to attend the Assembly of The Lutheran World Federation in Minneapolis.

As their hosts we will provide them with free travel, room and board plus a small amount of pocket money from the time they arrive until they leave our shores.

Our Synodical Luther League gathered \$500 for this cause as one of the Mission projects during the last two years. The Minnesota District Luther League generously voted \$500 for this project at the recent convention in Edina, Minn.

This amount will take care of the costs for which the Synodical Luther League is directly responsible. But some of the smaller Districts will need help in financing the travel of our guests through their Districts and over the long distances between Districts. Our Synodical Luther League wishes to assist them in this, and we shall be able to do so provided we receive gifts from larger Districts, local Leagues, or individual adults interested in this program. Gifts should be addressed to The Youth Office, Route 2, Blair, Nebr.

The general plan for these 70 youth is to have them

spend two weeks in each of the following situations: A typical American Lutheran home; a Luther League Bible Camp; and a Leadership Training School.

The itinerary for Niels Johansen and Ejvind Kristensen follows:

June 20-30, Falmouth and Westbrook, Maine area.

June 30-July 6, Lake Winnepesaukee Bible Camp in New Hampshire

July 7-13, Detroit, Michigan

July 14-20, Spencer Lake Bible Camp near Waupaca, Wisconsin

July 21-Aug. 4, Churches in Racine, Milwaukee and Pewaukee, Wisconsin

August 5-11 they will join the entire group meeting with American youth at Onamia, Minn. From there they will go to Minneapolis for the Assembly and to Northfield, Minn. for the Lutheran Student Association Assembly.

The trip for Gunther Beck and Hans-Peter Ekardt is being planned as follows: From New York to Chicago and then to Atlantic, Iowa to board the Iowa District bus for Fresno. They have been invited to visit churches in the Denver area. Other stops are being arranged for them in Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota leading up to the meeting at Onamia.

Minnesota Leaguers Meet at Edina

The Minnesota District Luther League Convention convened at the Edina Community Lutheran Church May 2. After registration the leaguers gathered in the sanctuary for a communion service with Pastor Robert Hansen of Farmington preaching on the theme: "Freedom and Unity." Following this service, Pastor Ed Keller opened the preliminary business session at which the various committees were elected. The evening ended with snacks and a mixer.

Friday's business sessions resulted in the election of Pastor Edward Hansen of Hutchinson as president, Pastor Reynold Tange of Luck as vice-president, and Harry Schwartz of Sleepy Eye as treasurer. The Convention voted \$500.00 as an immediate gift to the Synodical Luther League for the traveling expense of the four European young men to be sponsored by our synod at the L.W.F. Assembly in Minneapolis. A \$1,500.00 budget was adopted for the coming year.

Youth Director George Robertson spoke to the convention on Friday afternoon. A banquet was held Friday evening. The theme of the entire convention was that of the Lutheran World Federation: "Christ Frees and Unites."

Leaguers from the Minnesota District will travel to Fresno for the International Luther League Convention on two chartered buses and a station wagon. Close to thirty will be in attendance!

Our Luther Leagues in Canada

Edmonton:
A number of leaguers from this congregation attended the Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute fellowship week in Camrose and returned spiritually strengthened and inspired. On April 21, Canadian leaguers gathered here for a Youth Rally.

Deer and Tilley:

The Luther Leagues of these two churches sponsored a showing of the "Martin Luther" film to their congregations on their respective Youth Sundays.

Assar:

Two girls from this Luther League plan to attend the International Luther League Convention in Fresno this June.

San River:

Dramatics hold an appeal for this league. Having successfully presented two plays at Christmas time, they are now presenting two more: "Joseph of Arimathea", a ten-minute play, and "The Lamp Burned Low." The plays are not only presented to the local congregation but also in neighboring towns.

YOUTH OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD

MATERIALS FOR YOUR YOUTH PROGRAM

Order From The Youth Office

V. PROJECTS

- A. 1957-58 Mission Project of Synodical L. L. (Free)
(Available after Aug. 1, 1957)
- B. 1956-57 Reading Course Project (Free)
1957-58 Reading Course Project (Free)
(Available after Sept. 1, 1957)
- C. Servicemen's Project:
 1. Service to Those in Service —2¢ (ELC)
 2. What Are You Doing For Your Members in Service?—5¢ (AUG)
 3. So You're Going Into Service? (NLC)

VI. ORGANIZATION

- A. Luther League with Divisions and Materials —\$1.50 (ELC)
- B. How to organize a League—2¢ (ELC)
- C. A Plan for organization—2¢ (ELC)
- D. Improving Business Meetings—2¢ (ELC)
- E. Brief Service for receiving new members—2¢ (ELC)
- F. Model Constitution for Local League—2¢ (ELC)
- G. If I were a L. L. President, (Vice-pres., Sec., Treas.)—5¢ (AUG)

- VII. "ONE" MAGAZINE: Free sample copies; Poster; Subscription Blanks; Envelopes.

Colorado Luther Leagues Rally at Brush

One hundred young people took part in the League rally held at the First English Lutheran Church, Brush, Colorado, Sunday afternoon and evening April 28th. All four Denver Churches were represented with fifteen to twenty Leaguers each. A delegation of visitors from the St. Paul's American Lutheran Church, Otis, Colo. also visited the Rally.

Featured on the program was a workshop conference on prayer. "Brainstorm" discussions were presented by one Leaguer from each church. Buzz sessions then took over for almost a half hour each led by a pastor and tackling a list of questions prepared beforehand. Each group reported. Groups reported that they thought the catechism taught them adequately what was needed to know about prayer. Finding time and occasion for prayer seemed to be a problem for many.

Recreation period was taken care of by two organized softball games. Main outcome of the games were some big appetites which were taken care of by the Women's Missionary society. Women who are not mothers of Leaguers serve at our rallies as mothers are serving all other times during the year. Supper time also was occasion for talks on coming League activities, Bible camps, conventions, the Lutheran World Federation Youth Section convention, and on "One" magazine. At 7 P.M. the closing vesper services were conducted by Pastor A. P. Staby with a message on the L. L. Convention Theme, "The Truth Shall Make You Free" by Rev. Norlan Hanson of Denver.

BY THE FIRESIDE

MORNING PRAYER

When little things would irk me, and I grow
 Impatient with my dear ones, make me know
 How in a moment joy can take its flight,
 And happiness be quenched in endless night.
 Keep this thought with me all the live-long day—
 That I may guard the harsh words I might say,
 When I would fret and grumble, fiery hot,
 At trifles that tomorrow are forgot.
 Let me remember, Lord, how it would be
 If these, my loved one, were not here with me.

—Author Unknown

WHO ARE YOU?

Adelina Patti, the great singer, after her marriage to a certain baron left an order at home that her mail should be forwarded to the Cannes Post Office. On her arrival there she went to the post office and asked if there were any letters for the Baroness Adelina Cederstrom-Patti.

"Lots of them," was the reply.

"Then give them to me."

"Have you an old letter by which I can identify you?"

"No, I have nothing but my visiting card. Here it is."

"That is not enough, Madame. Any one can get visiting cards from other people. If you want your mail you will have to give better proof of your identity."

A brilliant idea then struck Madame Patti. She began to sing a touching song. She chose one well known, beginning "A Voice Loving and Tender," and never did she put more heart into the melody. And marvelous was the change as her brilliant voice broke the silence.

In a few moments the quiet post office was filled with people, and hardly had the singer finished the last verse when an old clerk came forward and, trembling with excitement, said, "It is Patti—there's no one but Adelina Patti could sing like that!"

"Well, are you satisfied now?" asked the singer of the one who had doubted her identity.

The only reply which he made was to go to the drawer and hand her the letters.

If we are to convince the world of the reality of Jesus Christ, and that we are indeed His disciples, it can only be by showing forth in our lives the power of His endless life. Our claim to be His must be substantiated by the melody of a holy life.

—Challenge

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

Bernard of Clairvaux, according to a Church historian, kept in his room a piece of parchment on which were these words: "Bernard, why are you here?" This searching question was so placed that it caught his eye every time he entered the room. By keeping the thought constantly before him he was helped in clarifying his purposes and in keeping his attention centered on the more important things of life. The question is one that all of us may well ask ourselves frequently. In thinking of it we will be helped in determining the purposes God has for our lives and led to a more faithful endeavor to fulfill these purposes.

—Christian Observer

REFLECTION

By Audrey Shank

Lord, make my love a mirror of Thy
 love,

Reflecting to each person that I see
 A warmth, a radiance that is above
 What my own mortal love can ever
 be.

I pray for burning love that reaches
 out

To feel, to see, to know, to under-
 stand;

For faithful love that still endures
 without

Requiem, reaching far beyond de-
 mand

Of recompense to human love of
 mine.

This I pray earnestly, for I can
 That in reflecting this pure love
 Thine,

I am, my Father-God, reflecting Thine
 —Gospel Herald

I AM RESOLVED

To live with all my might while I
 live;

Never to lose one moment of time
 but improve it in the most prob-
 able way I possibly can;

Never to do anything which I should
 despise or think meanly of
 another;

Never to do anything out of revenge

Never to do anything which I should
 be afraid to do if it were the last
 hour of my life.

—Jonathan Edwards

MY FRIENDS

My friends are little lamps to me
 Their radiance warms and cheers
 my ways,

And all the pathway dark and lone
 Is brightened by their rays.

I try to keep them bright by faith

And never let them dim with doubt

For, every time I lose a friend,

A little lamp goes out.

Elizabeth Whittmore

Returning to the village after her
 runaway match, the new bride said
 to the old gardener: "I suppose my
 elopement was a nine-days' wonder."

"It would 'ave been," replied the
 old fellow, "only Higgins' dog was
 mad the same night."

NOT TO HIS CREDIT

Charles W. Eliot, famous president
 of Harvard University, was being hon-
 ored one night by a group of
 well-known educators.

"Permit me to congratulate you
 the miracles you have performed
 the university," said one educator.
 "Since you became president, Har-
 vard has become a storehouse of knowl-
 edge."

"That is true," laughed Eliot. "But
 I scarcely deserve the credit for this.
 It is simply that the freshmen bring
 so much and the seniors take away
 so little."—Origin unknown.

CHURCH NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

(Continued from page 4)

missionaries who have served in China. They joined in paying tribute to five retired missionaries who first went to China before 1900.

NEW TURN TOWARD ISOLATIONISM

Even though President Eisenhower suggested a substantial cut in his own foreign aid proposals, the economy bloc is not satisfied and wants a deeper cut. Its drive has gained so much momentum that it believes it can wash out many of our international commitments. It is building on a mood of disillusionment and hopelessness concerning our fortunate nations in a strong effort to withdraw and let the rest of the world go hang. In other words, we see the old isolationism, armed with a new set of arguments, trying to come back to life in a very different world. The same escapist desire to solve international tensions by running away from them is operating that caused Congress to pass the "neutrality law" just twenty years ago this month. Only a few months after its passage Japan started its war on China, then aggression occurred in Europe, and on all the theoretical protections the law were gone and we were once more involved in a global cataclysm. The meaning of these tragic events was not lost on most Americans; so when World War II ended we took the lead in organizing the United Nations. After the war we kept our powerful economy working at full capacity and

extended aid which saved Europe through the Marshall plan. Then we settled down to the long job of helping underdeveloped areas to use constructively the revolutionary new urges which were driving people forward toward a better life for themselves and their children. In the words of Stringfellow Barr, "we rejoined the human race." If now we attempt to isolate ourselves and retire into the shell of a "for-

trepreneur America," we shall spend far more on armaments than we can possibly save on foreign aid. The plain fact is that we have the means to help, and this capacity carries with it the obligation to use it for the benefit of mankind. To falter, to turn back, to seek an isolation which is no longer possible, is to betray our duty, to miss our mission.

Christian Century



A little life insurance is a good umbrella but a poor roof

You may have "some life insurance," but is it enough?

How many years of your salary will it replace? Will it finish paying for your home? Is it enough to make sure your children finish school? How long will it buy even the necessities of life for your family?

Better make sure your life insurance program is more than an umbrella for temporary need. Make it a shelter for years to come!

Write for information on better family protection. No obligation.

GUYER AND HANSEN

LOANS

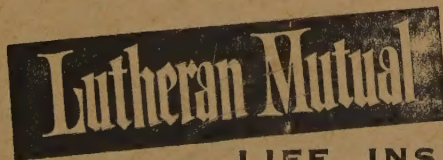
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Synodical Budget comprises: (1) Children's Homes, (2) School Fund, (3) General, (4) Home Mission, (5) Indian Mission, (6) Pension Fund.
**Extra-Synodical comprises: (A) Foreign Missions (where most needed), (B) South America, (C) Japan, (D) Santal, (E) Sudan, (F) Jewish, (G) China.

	Fiscal Year	Calendar Year	Calendar Year
		Extra-Synodical**	Ac
Previously acknowledged	38850.60	849.98	28273.62
Mason City, Nebr., Zion Luth. Church, Basin Ladies Aid	19.25	19.25	
Elk Horn, Ia., from Thos. L. Christensen, Jr., in memory of grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Lange (B&C)	100.00	25.00	50.00
Greenville, Mich., St. Paul's Ev. Church in memory of J. William Hansen for Indian Mission	5.00	5.00	
Omaha, Nebr., Pella Ev. Luth. Church	22.00		
Sleepy Eye, Minn., Trin. Luth. Sunday School for 1 student to Mission School at Sudan	20.96	(E)	20.96
Westbrook, Me., Trin. Luth. S. S. Easter Offering	73.80		
Cushing, Wis., First E.L.C. Loyal Workers for Home Mission	2.00	2.00	
Hutchinson, Minn., Main St. Luth. S. S.	148.74	(A)	148.74
For Hospital Beds of Equipment (E)	100.00	(E)	100.00
Cushing, Nebr., St. John's Luth. Ladies Aid for Synod. Need above quota	83.00		
Ord, Nebraska, Bethany Luth. Church for 57-58 Budget	24.75	24.75	
Denmark, Wis., Our Savior's Luth. Church S. S. Easter Offering: Home Mission \$25, Indian Mission \$25, Santal and Sudan \$25 each	75.00	50.00 (D)	25.00
Kansas City, Kan., Westwood Luth. Church 57-58 quota	25.00	(E)	25.00
Graettinger, Ia., St. Paul Luth. S. S.	150.00	150.00	
Fremont, Nebr., First Luth. S. S. in memory of Mrs. P. C. Johnsen, Grandmother of Missionary Paul Johnsen	25.00	(A)	25.00
Dubuque, Ia., Wartburg Seminary Student Body and Faculty for Building of Chapels in Japan	10.00	(C)	10.00
West Branch, Ia., for Home Mission from Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Jensen \$2 and Mrs. Esther Wiesman \$1 in memory of Chris Christensen, West Branch, Ia	200.00	(C)	200.00
Elk Horn, Ia., from Rev. and Mrs. Henry N. Hansen	3.00	3.00	
Audubon, Ia., from Mr. and Mrs. Dean L. St. Peter in memory of Rev. Joseph Rasmussen, Scranton, Ia.	5.00	(B)	5.00
Exira, Ia., Luth. Church, from member of the church in memory of Martin Toft, 57-58 quota	5.00	(C)	5.00
Blair, Nebr., A member of First Luth. Church (School Fund \$10, China Mission \$10)	79.50	79.50	
Plainview, Nebr., Bethany Luth. Church	20.00	10.00 (G)	10.00
Racine, Wis., from friends, Our Savior's Luth. Church, in memory of Theodore Simonsen (BCE)	148.85		
Oakland, Calif., Our Saviour's Luth. Church 57-58 quota	60.00		60.00
Clinton, Wis., Pella Luth. S. S.	200.00	200.00	
Westby, Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church from Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Nielsen in memory of Reuben Johnson for Home Mission	6.54	(B)	6.54
Northfield, Minn., Im. Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Jens German from Mrs. Robert Miller \$1, Mrs. J. C. R. Miller \$1, Ruth and Cora Miller \$1, Imm. Ladies Aid \$3 for Pension Fund	2.00	2.00	
Racine, Wis., Immanuel Luth. S. S. Easter Offering for Foreign Missions	6.00	6.00	
Green Bay, Wis., Bethel Ev. Luth. Church from Bethel Luth. S. S.	74.24	(A)	74.24
From Bethel Luth. Church	125.00	60.00	
Plainview, Nebr., Bethany Luth. Church from Kenneth Jensen for Home Mission	76.95	76.95	
Plainview, Nebr., Mrs. J. Will Jensen for Home Mission	50.00	50.00	
Salmonhurst, N. B., Canada St. Peter's Luth. Church	50.00	50.00	
	119.00	119.00	
TOTAL	40966.18	1865.43	29039.10

This is an experiment in reporting acknowledgments in such a way as to conserve space and still provide pertinent information desired. This procedure will continue until convention has met and acted on the matter officially.

Received with thanks. Blair, Nebraska, May 25, 1957. P. V. Hansen, Treasurer

EDITORIALS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from page 3)

takes, but it would be very disastrous if they were not allowed to make mistakes.

Perhaps there should be more constructive criticism in all church papers of the church and the conduct of affairs in the church. We must constantly try to criticize ourselves. Everything human may be benefited by self-criticism, also the church.

But it is very difficult to be critical. It is difficult to state something that may be implied as criticism or disagreement with boards or persons. The criticism is not viewed objectively. So people fear to stick their necks out. Yet it is well that the Protestant papers are not

bound. They do constantly evaluate and analyze the church they serve.

This is not so in the Roman Catholic church. We read the Roman Catholic papers. But you never find anything like these papers which criticize the church. They never suggest that the priests could do better. That is because the Pope is considered to be infallible, and the idea of infallibility seems to characterize the attitude of the Roman priests too.

The Roman Church says this is the truth and this is the way the truth must be interpreted. You may present Biblical arguments against such an interpretation, but this does not count. There is no freedom for the individual to think within that church. Remember what happened to Luther who began to think for himself.

WS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 2)

who undertook the extremely difficult task of providing an English translation of Skovgaard-Petersen's "Book of Youth."

UNITING CHURCHES APPROVE DRAFTING OF PENSION PLAN

Preparation of a pension plan for the American Lutheran Church was authorized at Chicago by representatives of the three Church bodies that met to unite in 1960.

A planning committee, to be composed of the chairman and the executive director of the respective pension boards of the uniting Churches, was authorized to begin work on the program in consultation with an actuarial expert.

When completed, the plan will be submitted to the Joint Union Committee for presentation to the constituent convention of TALC in May of 1961.

In recommending that steps be taken to prepare a pension plan "embodying desirable principles" of the present boards of the uniting Churches, the joint pension boards declared that the objective of the new Church should be a minimum pension of \$100 per month. The Joint Union Committee termed this a "commendable proposal," but deferred action on the recommendation pending study of the financial commitments that would be involved in raising the present minimums of the merger groups.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church has a minimum pension of \$75 per month, the American Lutheran Church \$50 to \$65, and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of \$60.

DIFFERENT NAME PROPOSED IN CANADA FOR NEW CHURCH

The new Church that is being established through merger of the Evangelical, American and United Evangelical Lutheran Churches may be known by a new name.

It has already decided, the two-million-member church body will function in the United States as "The American Lutheran Church," but its Canadian members will probably be called the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

Use of that name in the charter will be sought from the Government of Canada. It has been suggested to the Canada Committee on Policy and Organization of the uniting Churches.

The recommendation was made by the Joint Union Committee of the ELC, ALC and UELC at its two-day meeting April 16-17, in response to a request that the name "The American Lutheran Church" be changed.

The Canadian units of the merging bodies objected to the name on the grounds that it was "a geographic designation rather than an ecclesiastical historical name."

The Joint Union Committee replied by recording "its opinion that the difficulty will be obviated by the choice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada" as the name there.

The Canada Committee was also requested to formulate necessary provisions for inclusion in its constitution and by-laws to define its relationship to the new Church.

Proposed by-laws for TALC provide for a Canada District, comprising the Dominion of Canada from the lakehead to the Pacific Coast. It would be one of 19 districts.

Under an article of union for the new Church devoted to Canadian Affairs, the Canada District is authorized to continue negotiations with other Lutheran groups in Canada concerning the possibilities of a larger union.

The Joint Union Committee also discussed the future status of the ELC's Lutheran Theological Seminary in Canada but took no final action on the matter.

BOOK REVIEW

All books reviewed may be ordered from Lutheran Publishing House, 200 South Fifth Street, Blair, Nebraska.

I have a friend who took his little seven year old boy fishing with him one day. They put out the trout line and then went up to the cabin. After an hour, they went back down to the river to see if they had caught anything. Sure enough, there were several fish on the line. "I knew there would be, Daddy," said the boy. "How did you know?" asked the father. "Because, I prayed about it," said the child. So they baited the hooks again and put out the line and went back to the cabin for supper. Afterward, they went back to the river; again, there were fish on the line. "I knew it," said the boy. "And how?" asked his father. "I prayed again." So they put the line back out into the river and went to the cabin. Before bedtime, they went down again. This time, there were no fish. "I knew there wouldn't be," said the child. "How did you know?" asked the father. "Because," said the boy, "I didn't pray about it this time." "And

why didn't you?" asked his father. "Because," said the boy, "I remembered that we forgot to bait the hooks."

I wonder if many times the apparent failures we have in prayer are not the result of some failure on our part, and not on God's.

Robert E. Goodrich, Jr., in
What's It All About?

(Fleming H. Revell Co.)

A tombstone is a terrible place to preach from, and a far worse place to try to gather a congregation—but if John Wesley had waited until the Church of England opened its doors to him, and he could have preached from a proper pulpit with a "proper" congregation, there never would have been any revival in England, and there never would have been any Methodist church.

When Jesus said "Follow me," I think He intended that we should follow Him in making the most of the imperfect, in doing what can be done with things as they are.

Robert E. Goodrich, Jr., in
What's It All About?

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